

Fort Wilkins Historic State Park

Copper Harbor, MI

2012 Summer Programs and Special Events

Sponsored by the Fort Wilkins Natural History Association and Fort Wilkins Historic State Park - DNR

Admission: MI Recreation Passport, Out of State Daily Recreation Passport or Out of State Annual Recreation Passport (Details Below)

Day Walks and Special Event Program Times are Noted.

Evening Programs begin at 7:30 PM EDST (unless indicated otherwise)

All evening programs are held at the Fort Wilkins West Barracks, Copper Harbor, MI.

JUNE

6/9 Tuesday.....**1:00 PM** "Guided Hike of Hunter's Point"- Dick Powers & Alex Protzel, The hike will start at Copper Harbor Marina. A **Marina Open House** will also take place from 10 AM - 3PM. Refreshments available.

JULY

7/2 Monday....."An Evening with Fort Wilkins Wildflowers", Harvey Desnick, Author Keweenaw Wildflowers Blooming Seasons

7/3 Tuesday....."A Community Together Braves Snowy Weather: A History of Winter Carnival", Jane Nordberg

7/5 Thursday..... **BOOKSIGNING** Author Celeste Tillson will be at the park store from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Celeste is the author of the popular children's mystery series, The Clue at Copper Harbor, Mystery of the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse, and Secret of Bete Grise Bay. Meet and talk with Celeste at the park store about her current titles as well as answer questions about her upcoming book.

7/5 Thursday...."Star Gazing" **PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL TIME 11PM**, Joel Kimball, Michigan Tech University

7/6 Friday.....**BOOKSIGNING** Author Amanda Wais will be at the park store from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM. Amanda's book entitled Little Slices of da Harbor contains witty and educational short stories about Copper Harbor. Connect to Copper Harbor via the writings and tales of Amanda Wais.

7/6 Friday....."Orienteering – How NOT to Get Lost in The Northwoods", Lee Jackson, Fort Wilkins Camp Host

7/9 Monday....."Guns of Fort Wilkins", Jim Billings, former resident of Fort Wilkins, and owner of Swede's Gift Shop & Keweenaw Minerals.

7/10 Tuesday....."Life of a Michigan Copper Miner", Larry Malloy, local historian and author, What exactly did a "miner" do underground or above ground?

7/11 Wednesday.."Off the Beaten Track, Backpacking on Isle Royale", Barb McTaggart, Isle Royale Park Ranger

7/12 Thursday....."Lighthouse Optics", Kurt Fosburg, VP Marquette Maritime Museum, Captain of Lighthouse Tours, Metals/Lens Expert

7/13 Friday....."Copper Country Mines find a New Use", Join Keweenaw National Historical Park Ranger Nick Clark, as he presents a program about the new homes bats have found in abandoned mines across the Copper Country.

7/16 Monday....."Planning a Successful Trip: Backpacking on Isle Royale", Lori Honrath, Isle Royale Park Ranger

7/17 Tuesday....."An Evening with Fort Wilkins Wildflowers", Harvey Desnick, Author Keweenaw Wildflowers Blooming Seasons

7/18 Wednesday.."Life Underground: Copper Country Mining", Erik Nordberg

7/19 Thursday....."Delaware Mine", Tom & Lani Poynter, Owners of the Delaware Mine

7/20 Friday....."Our National Park System and Service: An American Success Story", Mike Pflaum, Keweenaw

National Historical Park Superintendent, This program will look briefly at the scope and scale of the U.S. National Park System and the mission of the National Park Service in preservation and visitor service, with an emphasis on the Lake Superior area parks.

7/21 Saturday....."Living In and Loving Sandhills Lighthouse", Mary Mathews & Bill Frabotta; Owners/Innkeepers

7/23 Monday....."Crossing the Big Lake to Isle Royale", with the Photography of Captain Ben Kilpela, Copper Harbor Ferry Service to Isle Royale

7/24 Tuesday....."Natural Wonders of the Keweenaw", Charlie Eshbach, Author & Nature Tour Guide

7/25 Wednesday.. "Lighthouse Optics", Kurt Fosburg, VP Marquette Maritime Museum, Captain of Lighthouse Tours, Metals/Lens Expert

7/27 Friday.....SPECIAL EVENT – **BATTERY D CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT** - SEE DESCRIPTION BELOW

7/27 Friday..... **BOOKSIGNING** Author Lynn Emerick will greet visitors and sign copies at the park store from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM of his latest title Paradise North – Seasons in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Emerick is a former professor at Northern Michigan University and a 5th generation descendant of Cornish copper miners who came to the Keweenaw in the mid-1800s. He is also the author of the books Going Back to Central Mine, Sharing the Journey, With Stick and String, The Superior Peninsula, You Wouldn't Like it Here and You STILL Wouldn't Like it Here. Enjoy the beauty, history (and humor!) of the Upper Peninsula with Emerick's award-winning books.

7/28 Saturday.....SPECIAL EVENT – **BATTERY D CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT** - SEE DESCRIPTION BELOW

7/29 Sunday.....SPECIAL EVENT – **BATTERY D CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT** - SEE DESCRIPTION BELOW

7/29 Sunday..... **BOOKSIGNING** – Stars in the Water 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM at the Fort Wilkins Park Store.

Award-winning children's author and local resident Lesley DuTemple will be on hand to sign her latest book, Stars in the Water. Readers of all ages will journey to the North Woods through DuTemple's three tales of magic and nature, richly illustrated by Jack Oyler. Lesley will also sign her other popular titles, One Little Balsam Fir and R is for Raccoon.

7/30 Monday....."Bats – Creatures of the Night", Lee Jackson, Fort Wilkins Camp Host

7/31 Tuesday....."Natural Wonders of the Keweenaw", Charlie Eshbach, Author & Nature Tour Guide

JULY SPECIAL EVENTS

July 27th, 28th and 29th - Battery D - History comes alive at Fort Wilkins. Battery D, 1st Michigan Light Artillery, a Civil War era living history group returns to Fort Wilkins for its 27th annual weekend encampment. The weekend event will be open to park visitors from 8 AM to 8 PM on Friday and Saturday and 8 AM to 4 PM on Sunday. Battery D will interpret army life of the period, demonstrating artillery and small arms drills, period cooking and soldiers' pastimes. A Michigan State or Out of State Recreation Passport is required for entry into the park.

DAILY PROGRAMS

Living History Program Costumed interpreters act as members of the military garrison. Leave the present and join them in the year 1870! Daily 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM from June 25th through August 17th.

Future Historians The Michigan Historical Center has Future Historians portray actual girls and boys that lived in Fort Wilkins. They perform daily chores, play historic games and talk to visitors about life at this remote outpost. Times vary each day. Dates: July 11-13 July 25-27

Fort Wilkins Natural History Association Park Store Open seven days a week. 10:00 - 6:00 (May, June, September and October) and 10:00 - 8:00 (July and August)

Recreation Passport A Michigan State Recreation Passport is required on all vehicles, for prices or information, go to www.michigan.gov/recreationpassport**Lighthouse Boat Tours** Departing daily from the Copper Harbor Marina 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM (every 2 hrs) and an evening 'Sunset Cruise' 7 days a week (per person charge).

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AUGUST

- 8/2 Thursday....."An Evening with Fort Wilkins Wildflowers", Harvey Desnick, Author Keweenaw Wildflowers Blooming Seasons
- 8/3 Friday....."Keweenaw Stories", Join Keweenaw National Historical Park Ranger Katherine Clark
- 8/4 Saturday.....SPECIAL EVENT - **Copperman Triathlon** – SEE DESCRIPTION BELOW
- 8/6 Monday....."Crossing the Big Lake to Isle Royale", with the Photography of Captain Ben Kilpela, Copper Harbor Ferry Service To Isle Royale
- 8/7 Tuesday....."More Than Buildings: Important Women of Copper Country History", Jane Nordberg,
- 8/8 Wednesday....**BOOKSIGNING** Author Nancy Sanderson will be at the Fort Wilkins Park Store from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM for a book signing. Nancy's book, Copper Country Postcards offers a view of the Keweenaw Peninsula's past via hundreds of postcards featuring mining, mills, machines, shipping, the 1913 strike, towns and villages and much more.
- 8/8 Wednesday...."Gold Medal Heroes of the Shipwreck *L.C. Waldo*", Mark Rowe, KCHS Maritime Chairman and Keweenaw County Historical Society, Trustee
- 8/9 Thursday....."Copper Country Stories", Park Rangers from the Keweenaw National Historic Park
- 8/10 Friday....."Living In and Loving Sandhills Lighthouse" – Mary Mathews & Bill Frabotta, Owners/Innkeepers
- 8/11 Saturday.....SPECIAL EVENT- **Fort Wilkins by Candlelight** - SEE DESCRIPTION BELOW
- 8/11 Saturday....."Star Gazing" **PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL TIME 11PM**, Joel Kimball, Michigan Tech University
- 8/12 Sunday....."There's Always Something Left: Houghton County Potato Farming", Erik Nordberg
- 8/13 Monday....."An Evening with Fort Wilkins Wildflower", Harvey Desnick, Author Keweenaw Wildflowers Blooming Seasons
- 8/14 Tuesday....."Cranial Capacities of Corvids: What it Really Means to be a Bird Brain", Dorothy McLeer, Interpretive Naturalist at the Environmental Interpretive Center, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- 8/15 Wednesday..."She's Not As Shiny As She Used To Be – The Shipwreck Story of the City of Bangor", Mark Rowe, KCHS Maritime Chairman and Keweenaw County Historical Society, Trustee
- 8/16 Thursday....." Delaware Mine", Tom & Lani Poynter, Owners of the Delaware Mine
- 8/17 Friday....."Keweenaw Stories", Join Keweenaw National Historical Park Ranger Matthew Phillips.
- 8/18 Saturday....."Growing Up in a Copper Harbor Commercial Fishing Family", Rich Jamsen; Copper Harbor
- 8/20 Monday....."Natural Wonders of the Keweenaw", Charlie Eshbach, Author & Nature Tour Guide
- 8/21 Tuesday....."Growing Up in a Copper Harbor Commercial Fishing Family", Rich Jamsen; Copper Harbor
- 8/22 Wednesday..."Guns of Fort Wilkins", Jim Billings, former resident of Fort Wilkins, and owner of Swede's Gift Shop & Keweenaw Minerals.
- 8/23 Thursday....."Natural Wonders of the Keweenaw", Charlie Eshbach, Author & Nature Tour Guide

8/24 Friday....."The 1913 - 1914 Michigan Copper Strike: New Perspectives", Gary Kaunonen, Author of *Finns in Michigan*, and Discovering the Peoples of Michigan Series.

AUGUST SPECIAL EVENTS

August 4, Saturday - Copperman Triathlon This event begins at 9:00AM at the Fort Wilkins boating access site. Participants will swim tranquil Lake Fanny Hooe, bike the rocky shores of Lake Superior and run through wilderness on shady roads. The swim is .5 mile (cap mandatory and provided), bike is 23 miles (helmet mandatory – bring your own), and run is 5 miles. Visitors may observe all three stages of the event from the Fort Wilkins boating access site. Register at www.keweenawcopperman.org or phone Crystal Holzberger at (906) 337-7000 for more information. Sponsored by Aspirus Keweenaw Hospital. Participants must pre-register. Registration is limited to 195 individuals and 50 teams. All registrations are final. No refunds. Entry Fees: Individuals: \$60.00 Teams: \$145.00

August 11th Fort Wilkins by Candlelight Costumed interpreters lead you back in time to the year 1870. As the sun begins to lower in the horizon we invite you to tour Fort Wilkins by candlelight and interact with the 1870 residents of this wilderness outpost. Enjoy a fashion show of historic costumes by Becky Weeks. Light refreshments will be served by candle light in a restored 1844 mess hall as the stars twinkle and the warm breeze blows memories of old from the moonlit waters of Lake Fanny Hooe.

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL EVENT

Sept. 22, Saturday - Geocaching Event and Fall Festival Spend the day exploring the beautiful Keweenaw Peninsula in the fall color season during a Geocaching Event. The event begins at 10 AM at the Picnic Shelter. Following the event there will be a bonfire with hot dogs and snacks provided at 3 PM. For more information telephone the Fort Wilkins Historic State Park at (906) 289-4215. A Michigan State or Out of State Precreation Passport is required for entry into the park.

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